

BOX ISSUE FEE Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant submits this Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance to address further Dear Sir: the Notice of Allowability ("Notice") having a mailing date of February 11, 2003 (Paper No. 12).

In the Notice, the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance were that "there was no prior art found that teaches or fairly suggests a flocked transfer consisting essentially of a release sheet, a release agent and flock adhered to the release agent forming a transfer, said transfer is adhered to a substrate by a thermosetting hot melt film." (Notice at page 2.) While Applicant agrees that this is a reason for allowing Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 19 and 26 have other and/or different reasons for allowance.

Specifically, the prior art fails to teach the following features of Claims 1, 18 and 26:

## Application No. 09/735,721

- 1. A flocked transfer consisting essentially of a release sheet, a release agent on the release sheet, and flock on the release agent; the flock being formed in a desired pattern; the release agent holding the flock to the release sheet, wherein a thermosetting hot melt film is adhered to the transfer.
- 18. A flocked transfer assembly, comprising: a transfer consisting essentially of a release sheet, a release agent on the release sheet, and flock on the release agent; the flock being formed in a desired pattern; the release agent holding the flock to the release sheet, and a thermosetting hot melt film, wherein the transfer is adhered to the thermosetting hot melt film.
- 26. A flocked transfer assembly, comprising a release film, a release agent on the release film, and flock contacting the release agent; the flock being formed in a desired pattern, the release agent holding the flock to the release film, wherein the free surface of the flock is adhered to a thermosetting hot melt adhesive.

Applicant respectfully points out that Claim 26 uses the open ended term "comprising" and not the narrower phrase "consisting essentially of".

Although the Applicant believes that no fees are due for filing this Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance, please charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

Respectfully submitted,

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